



CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM

01228  
**Public Input**

JUN 16 1998

Date May 30, 1998

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program welcomes your participation. Please use the space below for your written comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).

If your comments are related to a CALFED public workshop or meeting, what was the date of that event \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

To whom it may concern: My name is Don Arburua. I am a Pest Control  
Advisor for Stanislaus Farm Supply in Merced California. Today I  
read an article in the May 27th edition of Ag Alert newspaper. It was  
the third in a series about the CalFed process and focused on the  
funding of the different programs.  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Don Arburua

Organization: Family, Father (optional)


Address: 1621 Pomona Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635

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First let me say that for three to four years I have been attending Cal-Fed public hearings. I've been to several in Fresno and at least one in Los Banos. Each time I've sat and listened as concerned citizens, farmers, business owners, politicians, school superintendents and water experts plead their case. They all have similar pleas don't take our water, don't destroy our communities, don't destroy our lives and our families lives. Here I must add that pricing water so high is the equal of taking it.

Now I want to get back to the article in Ag Alert. I read in there that environmental groups are adamant that no public money go to new storage, that only those who benefit should pay. Even though one third of new water will go for environmental use. Further more environmental groups say restoration should be paid for or I should say one half should be paid for by the ones who cause the damage to the Delta.

Now this brings me to my comment. On one hand we have 30 million people in the state, last time I checked they all drink water. And all around the state you will find people who make their living directly related to water. Some are farmers, some teach in farming communities and some service farmers like myself. This group must make up several million people at least.

On the other hand you have the environmental groups. How many people do these groups represent? Honestly how many people do they represent! I believe they have the ESA on their side and as far as us out here making a living working, I believe they think we can go to hell before they give up their power.

I'm writing this letter because I am scared for my family, my state and my country. When a few power hungry groups can rob us of our futures.

How did this happen to Cal-Fed? Where the wishes of the few can out weigh the future of our great state, our counties, our towns, our families and our children. I think I know what the environmental groups would say. They would say that one endangered species is just as important as all the people in the state. Then they would say if just one of the endangered species was wiped out of its natural habitat. (I say natural habitat because I know raising them in farms like Salmon farms doesn't count.) Then our whole existence on this planet is threatened.

This way of thinking is "BS" and I believe most people know it. They just haven't had it affect their lives yet.

In conclusion my plea is stop the environmental madness. Get back to some common sense before you bankrupt our state, our counties, our cities, and our

families. If you can't do it then tell the people and let the peoples voices be heard. Finally just do the right thing. Please don't sell us down the river for the sake of compromise with these groups like the Environmental Defense Fund. Think of our families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Don Arburua".

Don Arburua

P.S. Please give a copy of my letter to Lester Snow. I've written him before and listened to him at the meeting and believe he is a good and fair man.

Don & Krissy Arburua  
1621 Pomona St.  
Los Banos, CA 93635



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LOS BANOS, CA  
93635  
JUN 12 1998  
AMOUNT  
\$0.55  
0003-125-12

JUN 16 1998

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TO

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM  
1416 Ninth Street, #1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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WATER RESOURCES  
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